

T H E

C I T I Z E N ' s D A U G H T E R .

A F A R C E.



L O N D O N :

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1775

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## CITIES & DUNGEON



43.

7. 302.

## Jordon

to be fed at low tide. A small portion  
of the beach is covered at high tide, and  
the rest of the time is exposed. The  
water is shallow and the sand is  
fine. The beach is composed of sand  
and shell fragments.

P R O L O G U E  
TO THE  
CITIZEN's DAUGHTER.

Spoken by POLLY MUSLIN.

YOUR kind applause is all our author's aim,  
Who writes not for the sake of pence or fame ;  
The comic muse defies the critic's sneer ;  
But let me see [looks in the Pit] there are no  
critics here,  
If Sir, you are a critic, by that smile,  
I'm sure you'll spare our author for a while,  
Let Muslin's daughter tread this stage one week,  
E're with repenting tears you spoil her cheek,  
Be not severe for if she please not you ;  
For some of those [looking at the Boxes] fine  
gentlemen she'll do.  
Indulging fair who in the boxes sit,  
Tho' this our farce be not o'er stock'd with wit, }  
Join your applause with galleries and pit.  
[To the galleries] My friends above ne'er felt  
an itch to satire,  
Theirs ever was an honest open nature,  
To their commanding hands authors must own,  
They owe the making of their merit known ;  
Should we good folks your approbation meet,  
Though this our farce is but a homely treat,  
Shielded from satires penetrating quill,  
Will smile at critics, and defy their skill.

D R A M A T I S P E R S O N A.

M E N.

LORD BRAG, *a young nobleman, in love with women.*

CAPTAIN STARBOARD, *a sea-officer.*

Mr. MUSLIN, *an old citizen.*

JEREMY, *valet to lord Brag.*

CHAPLAIN.

A MUTE.

W O M E N.

POLLY MUSLIN.

SOPHIA, *ward to lord Brag.*

LADY MARY DICE, *sister to lord Brag.*

BETTY, *servant to Polly Muslin*

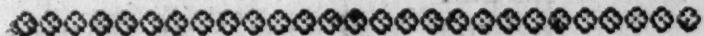
T H E



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## THE

# CITIZEN's DAUGHTER.



## A C T I.

### SCENE I. *Lord Brag's Apartment.*

LORD BRAG and CAPT. STARBOARD  
at Backgammon.

#### L O R D B R A G.

CAPTAIN, the hit is yours, fortune has entirely deserted me, I'm dam'd unlucky; have lost not less than ten thousand pounds this week, but henceforth I foreswear gaming. Jeremy ! Jeremy ! where are you rascal : why don't you come when I call you ?

Enter J E R E M Y.

Jer. Did your lordship call ? (*aside*) he looks like a losing gamester.

L. Brag. Tell my cashier to pay Capt. Starboard an hundred guineas.

Jer. My lord :

L. Brag.

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*L. Brag.* I say bid my cashier pay Capt. Starboard an hundred guineas.

*Jer.* Yes my lord, wou'd you have me take that draught to Mr. Quarterguinea?

*L. Brag.* Why ay, and if it is inconvenient to Quarterguinea to advance the money, go to my taylor, and bid him send me a couple of hundred, and charge them in his bill.

*Jer.* And your lordship will pay the principal and interest when you pay the bill: but perhaps my Lord, the Captain is not in present need of money, in a day or two you know Lord Slam will be in town, and then you may expect the thousand guineas he lost to you at brag the other day.

*L. Brag.* Very true Jeremy (*aside*) what a fertile invention this dog has. So Captain if you cou'd favour me with a day or two's patience.

*Capt. Star.* I am in no hurry, when it suits your convenience my Lord, and not before.

*Jer. (aside)* Then I'm afraid it will not be in a hurry.

*L. Brag.* Well my dear Starboard I am much oblige to you; and if I can serve you in any thing, you may command me.

*Capt. Star.* Why faith there is a small service you cou'd do me, which will lay me under an eternal obligation to you, do you think me an honest man my Lord?

*L. Brag.*

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*L. Brag.* Do I? yes I not only think you so, but am certain you are so.

*Jer. (aside)* What the devil does all this mean? perhaps the captain smells hemp, and does not chuse to ride the three-legg'd mare.

*Capt. Star.* Well then my Lord, as you do me the honour to think me honest, I will impart a seeret to you, that has raised as fierce a storm in my breast, as a Levant wind in the Mediteranean; but first let Mr. Jeremy retire, because it is not so proper he should know the danger of my present embarkation.

*Jer. (aside)* He is certainly in danger of being hanged, well he is an unlucky dog. Now I have been as deserving a halter as any man, along time yet never have been in the way of preferment.

[Exit.]

*Capt. Star.* You must know my Lord, I have hoisted my sails aboard of one of Cupid's frigates, that is to say, I am in love; what port think you I am bound for? that is, who do you think I am in love with; 'tis no other than Sophia; she is the haven, that must secure me, from the impending storm; she is certainly the most charming woman in the world, she is tall, straight, well limb'd, and what the world calls genteel, but a damn for that. Now my lord, if you will but deliver her a letter, from me, and speak a good word for me, perhaps I may chance to lye at anchor in her port.

*L. Brag.* Captain you may depend on my faith-

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faithfully delivering your letter, and I make no doubt but the port will be ready to receive you, Sophy is a good girl, and I dare say will be very glad of having made so good a conquest.

*Capt. Star.* Why I assure you my Lord I never struck my colours before, but now find myself obliged to submit to an unman'd vessel, ha! ha! there is the letter, (deliver this letter) 'tis the sincere declaration of an honest heart, without any of the rhodomantade of modern courtship; the contents are these, I begin, madam, then I tell her that as for women in general, they are not worth a damn; next I protest to her that she has so enchanted me that was I to go a cruize to morrow, my thoughts are so totally fixed on her charms that I shou'd forget my errand, and come back as I went: finally, I conclude by telling her that if I had the least notion of her being prepossessed in favour of any other man, I would see her at the bottom of the sea before I would thus address her, you see my Lord I am none of your milk-sop lovers.

*L. Brag.* No no Captain yours is a sincere disinterested love; which is of the greatest value to a sensible woman; are you for a turn in the park?

*Capt. Star.* No, I can't attend your lordship this morning, I am obliged to go into the city about earnest busines; so must wish you a good morning, don't think of the money, for I don't want it.

[Exit.  
Enter

## The CITIZEN'S DAUGHTER.

*Enter JEREMY unseen by my Lord.*

*L. Brag.* This is an odd dog, but one of the honestest fellows breathing; Sophy has a little tendre for him, if she had not, I fear his letter would have but little influence.

*Jer.* Why no, I fancy madam Sophy would sooner be taken with the captain's good humour, than his oratory.

*L. Brag.* I thought you was gone out of the room.

*Jer.* So I was my Lord, while you and the Captain were on secret matters, but now you have done, I made bold to return.

*L. Brag.* How the devil Jeremy shall I contrive to pay the captain the hundred guineas I have lost to him?

*Jer.* Why faith my Lord I know not, for Mr. Quarterguinea refused your Lordship's draught yesterday; yet methinks, if you would condescend to take Jeremy's advice, I could put you in a way to pay him and all the rest of your debts.

*L. Brag.* Come, let us hear your plan, Jeremy.

*Jer.* Why my Lord I would not advise you any thing but what I would do myself; my scheme then is, that your lordship should; as many other noblemen have done before you; take a trip into the city, look out for some warm tradesman's daughter there, whose father for the sake of making his girl a lady will

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will put her in your hands with fifty thousand pounds, this will once more enable you to support the necessary extravagance of a nobleman.

L. Brag. Your scheme is no bad one, but I fancy will not prove of much benefit to the projector, for the honest citizens are very weary.

Jer. So they are my Lord, but still Jeremy will be to many for them, you must know I am now paying my addresses to a linen draper's daughter in Mincing lane, the old fellow takes me for a Lord, and in a few days I am to be married to the girl, with a fortune of fifty thousand pounds.

L. Brag. Why how the devil could you impose yourself upon her for a lord? (takes hold of Jeremy's coat) these cloaths, have not the appearance of nobility.

Jer. Why to be sure these have not, but those which I wear upon days of courtship, are as handsome as your Lordship's or any other nobleman's in the kingdom.

L. Brag. Well Jeremy I wish you good success, and desire when you come to your fortune you'll rank me among the number of your friends; your city misses were not made for me, their money would be very convenient, but I never will marry, till I find a woman every way agreeable to me.

Jer. My Lord you may depend on my friendship. [Exit L. Brag.] City Misses! ha! ha! I fancy any Miss would go down provided she brought the coal. [Exit.

S C E N E

The CITIZEN'S DAUGHTER. II

S C E N E II. *An apartment in Mr. MUSLIN's House.*

*Mr. MUSLIN, Polly, and BETTY.*

*Mr. MUSLIN.*

Well chick you may go to the park to day. but do you hear Betty, keep a good look out least the young spendthrift from the court end of the town, should watch the girl home ; the rogues when they have run through their fortune, would gladly repair their extravagance, by marrying a citizen's daughter : but Polly was not made for such as they ; no ! no ! Polly you was decreed by your stars to be Lord Brag's, and none but Lord Brag's shall you be ; be at home in time child for my Lord dines with us to day.

*Polly.* Indeed Papa I dont like Lord Brag, and if all the noblemen at the other end of the town are like him I would not marry the king.

*Betty.* Hark Miss : you must never object to your father's choice, your father knows which side your bread is buttered of, and consults your interest, at the same time that he provides for your happiness.

*Mas.* Ay ! ay ! Betty, 'tis not every lord should have my Polly, but this young man, is a prudent young man, talks very sensibly of money matters, in short he is a lad that might make any girl's mouth water, well by by chick,

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chick, Betty be sure you take care of the girl,  
I am going upon change. [Exit.

Betty. Come Miss it is time for us to be  
moving too, for it is a long way from here to  
the park. *Exeunt.*

SCENE III. *Lord Brag's Apartment.*

JEREMY alone trying to open L. BRAG's  
*Wardrobe.*

Sho ! pho ! damn it, pow, nonsense ; now  
this is the devil, a puppy what businels had  
he to take the key's along with him, I have a  
great mind to break open the wardrobe, yet  
that wont do neither, for if I shou'd be so  
rash, the dog would be apt to break open my  
head in return ; well I must e'en be satisfied  
with this frock, and so walk to my dulci-  
ne'a's : how fond her old fool of a father is of  
me, if I should succeed in this business, as in  
all probility I shall, I'll make my master  
amends for usurping his title, he shall have  
free access to my wife, and if he can prevail  
on the girl to cuckold me, why I'll forgive  
him ; ha ! ha ! (laughs) the girl is not so  
fond of me as I could expect, poor little thing  
is just taken from a boarding school, and per-  
haps has left her heart behind her with the  
dancing master, musick master, or some such  
puppy's, ha ! ha ! egad I am a clever fellow,  
it is a toss up matter in my opinion, which  
is the cleverest fellow, Lord Brag, or Lord  
Brag's

Brag's representative, the odds I think are rather on my side, talla ral la! [Exit singing.

SCENE IV. *The Park.*

Enter LADY MARY DICE, and SOPHIA.

LADY MARY.

I thought I saw my brother just now.

Soph. Yes madam, he went up towards the Queen house.

L. Mary. Well here is a bench, so my dear Sophy let us sit down a little. I want to give you my sentiments on the affair you was mentioning to me this morning; has the Captain ever declared himself? I really think he is an honest man, and if you could put up with his odd humour, you might be very happy with him, he is a man that has seen the world, and though no fine gentleman, is in every capacity qualified for a husband; tell me Sophy, have not you a small partiality for this gentleman?

Soph. I have no objection to him, and was I to chuse a husband, 'tis likely he would be the person elect; but to be sincere with you, the Captain never told me in plain terms that he was in love with me; but has often said, that there was one woman in the world, with whom I could be happy to embark in the sea of love, which woman he has given me reason to imagine was myself.

C

L. Mary.

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*L. Mary.* Well Sophy I wish you happy whenever it happens, I foresee that you was born to be Mrs. Starboard, but here comes the very man himself.

*Enter C A P T A I N.*

*Capt.* Ladies your servant, Lady Mary, have you seen your brother?

*L. Mary.* Yes I had a glimpse of him just now, he is gone up towards the Queen's house.

*Capt.* Ay ! ay ! I suppose to see the elephant, I have got a piece of news to tell him, that will make him very merry.

*L. Mary.* O pray Captain if it is not improper, let us hear it.

*Capt.* Why you must know Madam, that as I came out of the city, behold, a fine fop of a coxcomb meets me, pulls off his hat, and with a modest assurance salutes me, with how do you do Captain ; I stared not recollecting that I was acquainted with the puppy, and returned him a cool bow, upon which the gentleman comes up to me, takes me by the hand, what dont you recollect Jeremy, Captain ? pray dont betray your friend ? I am upon an expedition, that will turn out to my advantage. I wished him success and so we parted, I could not for my soul be angry with the dog, though to be sure he did deserve a little bastonading, he was drest in one of my Lord's embroidered frocks, a sword by his side, and his hair coxcombed up in the highest

est taste, I could not understand where he was going: but suppose upon the scent of some city fortune, I wish my Lord would look out for something in that way, it might be of service to him, as his affairs are situated at present.

L. Mary. Why 'tis sometimes the fate of a good substantial tradesman's daughter, to fall into the arms of a distressed nobleman: but was I in their situation, I should sooner bestow my money on some deserving man of my own rank in life, than darn the fortune of the best peer of the realm.

Soph. Lady Mary if 'tis agreeable to you, we will be walking, for I want to call at Cote's auction room, as we go home, Captain you will escort us.

Capt. Madam you honour me in putting me in commission as your convoy; as such I sail with you wherever you please.

[Exeunt.

Enter POLLY and BETTY at one door, LORD BRAG at the other.

Polly. Indeed Betty 'tis too cold to walk this morning, besides the park is quite empty.

Betty. Well Miss you may go home when you please for my part I meant purely to oblige you.

L. Brag. (aside) Faith this is a fine girl, now if she should turn out a city fortune methinks I could be happy with her, I'll make

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up to her, and with Mrs. Abigail's permission have a little conversation with her ! Madam dont you find it very cool walking this morning, I perceive you are going to leave the park ; if you will permit me I'll wait upon you to your coach ?

*Betty.* Sir, Miss has no occasion for your assistance, she has no coach of our own ; though nobody has a better title to an equipage than my young lady ; I have the charge of her, and therefore must desire you not to intrude yourself where your company is not desired.

*L. Brag.* Well young woman, if your mistress forbids my attending her I shall submit.

*Polly.* Indeed Sir I am much obliged to you for your civility, but must wish you a good morning, and beg that you wont follow me, for my papa has pitched upon a husband for me, therefore it would be very improper for me to give encouragement, to another man.

*L. Brag.* Madam I obey (*aside*) but I must find out where you live ; for by my soul you must, you shall be mine, (*exit, returning writing in his pocket book*) Mr. Muslin, Linnen Draper, Mincing lane ; I'll go home, and dispatch Jeremy with a proposal of marriage to the father, never was I so much in love before, besides a muslin bale may prove of service against the insolence of my creditors.

[Exit.]

SCENE V. *The Auction Room.*

LADY MARY SOPHIA and CAPTAIN.

LADY MARY SOPHIA.

This picture pleases me much I must come to morrow and bid for it.

*Sophy.* Captain how do you like this sea piece?

*Capt.* Why madam, the painter might as easily have undertaken to describe the charms of your person as the beautiful horrors of a tempest, there is no situation so terrible except it be that of a doubtful lover, his heart is tost up like a ship in a storm, and he knows not whether he may ever hope to gain the wish'd for port.

*Soph.* You talk Captain as if you had had some experience in love matters.

*Capt.* I confess madam, I have so, and am now tacking and steering in the sea of Venus, and tis the wind of your sweet lips, that must either, waft me into port, or sink me under the rage of the element I now steer in.

*Soph.* Sir if I can save you from shipwreck you may depeud on a favourable gale.

*Capt.* Then Madam, since you are so kind, as to flatter me with hope; I will confess to you, that you are the haven, in which I should chuse to ride at anchor; and if you can accept of an honest man for your husband, here stands one who loves you better, than any thing in this world.

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*Soph.* I esteem myself much obliged to you, for preferring me, when there are women, more deserving of you, though I will venture to say more, who have so just a regard for your merit, my hand is yours, and it shall always be my study to deserve your love.

*Capt.* You make me the happiest of men, is it possible then that you can prefer me? when there are so many beaux who seek for your favour.

*Soph.* Yes Sir, and may every woman follow your example: and prefer the disinterested lover to the flattering fop.

*Capt. (aside)* I am more in love with her than ever, for her good sense and judgment.

*L. Mary.* Very well Madam Sophy; I hope all is concluded between you and the Captain; I have overheard all your discourse, and wish you both joy: my brother's chaplain: when we get home, shall tie the indissoluble knot; so you are determined Captain to venture upon Sophy, for better for worse.

*Capt.* Better she cant be Madam, if she changes it must be for the worse: but I set sail with a fair wind, and therefore defie any future storm.

*L. Mary.* Sophy, that gentleman that is just now come into the room, if he had both his eyes is very like Jeremy.

*Capt.* He is dress just as Jeremy was when I met him this morning.

*Now eight in point of time* *for,*

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*Jer.* (*aside*) The devil is always after my heels : now here is all our family, but they can't know me, I think I have disguised myself pretty well, but least my master should come in, I'll just take one turn round the room to prevent suspicion, and then carry myself off (*walks round the room and looks at Sophia.*)

*Capt.* Pray Sir do you know this lady?

*Jer.* Not I indeed Sir (*aside*) now I suppose I am to be caned but I'll behave as much like a gentleman as I can upon the occasion. (*walks off singing.*)

*Capt.* Harkee Sir : I am not one of your fresh water puppies, that will put up with any usage ; nor Sir I'll not be made so slight of as you may imagine ; tell me where you live and who you are that have the assurance to sing when I speak to you.

*Soph.* Pray Captain dont put yourself in a passion the fop is beneath your anger.

*Jer.* Sir I am short sighted, and therefore always look at people twice when I meet them, least I should be guilty of a breach of ill manners in not paying my respects to my friends when I am in their company : but if in looking upon that lady whom I took for one of my acquaintance ; I have given you the least offence : I wear a sword Sir and lodge at Mr. Trolly's milliner in St. James's-street, where you may find me any morning after twelve to three, your servant.

[Exit.]

*Capt.*

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*Capt.* I'll set him down ; I'll call upon him, and I am much mistaken if I dont make him dance as well as sing next time I speak to him.

*Soph.* Captain let me intreat you for my sake not to concern yourself with this fool.

*Capt.* Madam, I should be undeserving your notice, if I suffered that honour which I have laid at your feet, to be trampled on by every pigtail'd puppy, that chooses to make free with me.

*L. Mary.* Never concern yourself Sophia, for I'll be hang'd if this was not Jeremy, Captain I'll be your second : but let us make haste home, and we shall catch the gentleman before he is undrest,      [Exit.

**End of ACT I.**



A SCENE II.

SCENE I. A Street.

Enter Mr. MUSLIN.

Mr. MUSLIN.

THIS Mr. Johnston is a good man, and worth money: well Polly is a lucky rogue. These foolish young fellows now a days fall in love at first sight, because a woman is handsome, a pretty reason; will the butcher trust a man with a shoulder of mutton because he tells him he has a handsome wife? now this Johnston does not know that Polly will have a halfpenny: Lord Brag's views I take to be money; therefore he shall never come in for the plate: no, young men think old men to be fools, but old men know the young men to be so; ha! ha! Johnston shall be the man; besides he says that Lord Brag is an imposter, perhaps he may, but be he or be he not so, Johnston is the man: ay, ay, Polly shall be Mrs. Johnston, for what is a title without an estate? zounds we may buy a peerage for a thousand pounds; and so we will too; and wish Polly's fortune, and Mr. Johnston's estate

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estate, they may cut as good a figure, as any peer or peeress whatever, and two or three centuries hence, they will be antient nobility.

*Enter Lord Brag.*

*L. Brag.* (*to Mr. Muslin*) pray Sir, can you tell me which is Mr. Muslin's?

*Mus.* my name is Muslin, Sir what are your commands.

*L. Brag.* I sent you a letter this morning with a proposal of marriage for your daughter, and wait on you according to your appointment in your answer to mine.

*Mus.* Ay, ay, very true: is your name Johnston? (*aside*) a very pretty kind of a young man.

*L. Brag.* The same Sir.

*Mus.* Why then Mr. Johnston my daughter likes you; and as she has been always a good girl, I am determined not to thwart her inclinations, and finding your character answers the opinion I had of you: and that you are in love with the girl: if you will step with me to the coffee-house, we shall meet my lawyer there, who shall draw some few articles and then you shall have my consent, to your matters with Polly as soon as you can agree it between you: you say you will settle a thousand a year jointe upon her.

*L. Brag.*

L. Brag. I will, and promise you to make her a good husband.

Mus. No doubt but you will, come follow me.

L. Brag. (*aside*) The old fellow seems very fond of his girl, but yet methinks he takes good care of the main chance, I must be upon my guard least the old dog should cheat me. [Exeunt.

S C E N E II. *Mr. Muslin's House.*

JEREMY knocking at the door.

J E R E M Y.

Where the devil are all these servants. nobody hears : where can Betty be ? o ! here she comes.

Enter B E T T Y.

Betty. Ah ! poor Jeremy ! I fear your cake will prove dough, my young mistress has seen the young man, ay, and she is determined to have nobody but him, she has declar'd her mind to her father, who seems to give his consent, nay more I believe, the gentleman has wrote to him, and made very advantageous offers. If so, old square toes will be sure to second him : poor little soul, how much she is in love ; well you'll marry the maid, so you'll be well off, for it is not every maid will have you.

For.

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*Jer.* No ! no ! tis not come to that yet, why you know every thing is agreed upon between the old noodle and I ; and to morrow is fixed upon for the day of transfer : he will make over his daughter and fifty thousand to me, and I in return shalt settle my invaluable person upon her, instead of pin-money. To-morrow, Betty puts an end to all your ambitious views in regard to me.

*Betty.* You may be married to to-morrow if you please : but I assure you it must be to me, for my master has consented to the gentleman's waiting upon miss, and he will be here presently ; so let us go in, and do you make the best use of your tongue.

S C E N E III. *Polly's Apartment.*

Enter BETTY and JEREMY.

B E T T Y.

Madam, lord Brag.

*Jer.* How does my charmer ? has she well considered what we were talking off yesterday ? may I hope that to-morrow shall be the happy day.

*Polly.* If your Lordship will excuse the freedom of the confession I am going to make ; I will unfold my mind to you. Betty I have no farther occasion for you.

[Exit Betty.

*Jer.* I am all attentive Madam (*aside*) poor little rogue, now is she going to make love

to

to me ; the little boarding-school misses are so modest, and so loving.

*Polly.* You must know then my Lord, I have seen the man, I cou'd prefer to all others.

*Jer.* (*aside*) Ay, that's me, how prettily she opens the case, pray Miss where did you first behold the happy youth.

*Polly.* Walking one day in the park, chance brought us together.

*Jerry.* (*aside*) oh ! tis now evidently so.

*Polly.* The gentleman desired me to permit him to see me home.

*Jer.* (*aside*) Ay, so I did.

*Polly.* I was obliged to refuse him, but as I afterwards understood he found me out, and has sent proposals to my father, his name is Johnson.

*Jer.* (*aside*) this is not me. Well Madam and your father told him you was better provided for.

*Polly.* No Sir, my father has consented to his visiting me ; but at the same time told him that your Lordship honour'd me with your addresses.

*Jer.* Well Madam, and what said the poor fellow to that ?

*Polly.* Why he said that to his certain knowledge Lord Brag never paid his court to any Lady.

*Jer.* Ha ! ha ! ha ! poor dog, you see Madam, his brain is turn'd ; to be sure I ne-

D ver

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ver paid my addresses to any body, you are a daily witness of that truth.

*Polly.* Nay, my Lord, he goes further, and declares that your Lordship is an impostor and offers to convince my father of the truth of his assertion.

*Jer. (aside)* the devil he does, then indeed as Betty says my cake will prove dough ; yet I don't recollect among all my Lord's acquaintance, any one of the name of Johnson, this is a very strange affair Madam ; but I imagine your good father has more sense than to give ear to the malicious assertions of a disappointed lover ? You say you expect him here soon, if I should be so happy as to see him, I will convince him that I am Lord Brag, and you shall see him imploring forgiveness at my feet.

Enter BETTY.

*Betty.* Madam Mr. Johnson and your father are coming up the lane and will be here presently.

*Jer.* My dear Miss, let us go into the fore room, and have a peep at this Mr. Johnson ?

*Polly.* I attend you (*aside*) I think his Lordship seems in a noble fright upon the occasion.

[Exit.]

SCENE

SCENE IV. *The Street.*

*Mr. MUSLIN and LORD BRAG.*

*Mr. MUSLIN.*

Well, she shall be your's Mr. Johnson : you say that the true Lord Brag will meet you at my house ?

*L. Brag.* Yes Sir, he will be there as soon as we shall.

*Muf.* He ! he ! he ! what a pretty figure the puppy of an impostor will cut when he is met by the real Lord Brag ; he ! he ! he ! I always thought he looked like an impostor : egad he shall be heartily ducked in my horse-pond, which I fancy will prevent his future ambition ; but do you really love Polly, Mr. Johnson ? I hope you have no view of interest in this affair for I can't give her much down.

*L. Brag.* It is not her money, Mr. Muslin, but 'tis her beauty and merit that I admire.

*Muf.* Why the girl is a pretty rogue : very like what her mother was when she was young. Mr. Johnson, Polly's mother was as handsome a woman as any in the city of London ; and I was as clever a young fellow ; I was a good deal like you, when I was a lad.

*L. Brag. (aside)* But I hope I shall not turn out in my old age such a withered figure

as you are, O sir you was a much handsomer man, than ever I shall be.

*Mus.* No ! no ! not much handsomer neither, Mr. Johnson ; I was rather flimber : but we are at home now, (*takes out a great key and opens the street door*) walk in Mr. Johnson.

[*Exeunt.*

### SCENE V. POLLY's Chamber.

POLLY *alone, enter Mr. MUSLIN and LORD BRAG.*

*Mr. M U S L I N.*

Polly this is Mr. Johnson, whom I approve of as a proper young man for your husband.

*L. Brag.* Sir if Miss Muslin consents to make me happy, I shall always endeavour to deserve her.

*Polly.* My father's will shall always direct my actions, but in this case my own inclinations takes off from the merit of my obedience.

*L. Brag.* (*takes Polly by the hand*) To you madam I shall devote the rest of my life : and if you will permit me, I will send immediately for my chaplain, that the indissoluble knot may be tied, and that I may be put in possession of the most inestimable of jewels.

*Polly.* Sir It would look like prudery in me, to delay an affair in which my happiness is so agreeably interested, therefore you will

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will from henceforth be the rule of all my actions.

[Exit. L. B.

*Mus.* Now be sure Polly you behave yourself in every respect as becomes a good wife, follow your mother's examples child and you will be every thing a man can wish for ; 'tis not every woman that can rub through matrimony, as your mother did ; for there are so many little disturbances and accidents that must inevitably be your fate ; such as child-bearing, miscarriages, family feuds, and many other matters, that you will come to the knowledge of in time. To day I see you Polly Muslin, but to-morrow I hope to see you Mrs. Johnson in every sense of the word, you understand me child : here comes your husband that is to be.

*Enter LORD BRAG, BETTY follows him.*

B E T T Y.

Madam, here are two ladies, and two gentlemen beg to speak to you.

*Polly.* Desire them to walk up : papa, if you and Mr. Johnson will be so good as to entertain them in the next room, for a minute or two, I will just see the company and then give you a summons.

*Mus.* We will check Mr. Johnson if you will step with me I will shew you our family pictures.

[Exit.

J E R E M Y comes forward.

*Jer.* Madam I can bear this usage no lon-

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ger ;

ger ; your father has not treated me in a manner suitable to my dignity : I wish you a good morning ; you may take your Mr. Johnson whenever you please Miss. [Exit.]

*Enter LADY MARY DICE, SOPHIA, CAPT. STARBOARD and CHAPLAIN.*

LADY M A R Y.

Madam, you are the Lady, I suppose that I may soon hope to call sister ; permit me to wish you joy. (*salutes Polly.*)

*Sophy.* And me Madam (*does the same.*)

*Capt.* Young lady I think there is but one woman, that my Lord could have proffered to you, (*takes Sophy by the hand*) this is she ; if your sense equal your beauty, I think that next to this Lady you deserve the golden apple.

*Polly* Sir you do me too much honour ; but ladies and gentlemen, all is at an end between Lord Brag, and if Mr. Johnson, who I am going to be married to, has undertaken to convince my father that Lord Brag is an impostor, and I have some reason to suspect his Lordship, for while Mr. Johnson was with me he lay concealed in the next room, and overheard all Mr. Johnson alledged against him, and when Mr. Johnson left the room, he came out of his hole, wished me a good morning, and sneaked off.

*Capt.* Your description Madam does not suit Lord Brag at all ; pray is this Mr. Johnson here now ?

*Polly.*

*Polly.* Yes Sir, but you shall not come together, without you promise me upon your honour, that you will not dispute.

*Capt.* I promise you the gentleman shall receive no affront from me ; so if you will bring us along side of one another we will just hold a short parley.

*Polly.* Betty, desir Mr. Johnson and my father to come in. [Exit Betty

*Enter LORD BRAG and Mr. MUSLIN.*

*All seem amazed,*

*Capt.* Is this Mr. Johnson young lady ?

*Polly.* Yes Sir.

*Capt.* Then pray Madam where is Lord Brag.

*Polly.* Why Sir I told you he was gone.

*Mus.* Ay ! ay ! the rascal is sheer'd of, or else I would have ordered my servants to give his Lordship a washing in my horsepond.

*Capt.* Perhaps Sir, you may come up with my Lord still, if you make a good chace, Lady Mary have not you seen Mr. Johnson before ?

*L. Mary.* I think I recollect his face.

*Soph.* (to *Polly*) Madam I wish you joy once more. Mr. Johnson is a gentleman I have the highest esteem for and to whom I am under the greatest obligations : since my Lord has made off permit us to partake of your joy, and dance at your wedding with this gentleman.

*L. Brag.* (to *Sophia*) Madam I am much obliged

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obliged to you ; (*takes Polly by the hand*) Lady Mary, this Lady will in a few minutes be mine, come my dear Polly love is impatient, let us step into the next room, (*to his Chaplain*) testament follow me ; Mr. Muslin, Captain and Sophy do you attend me ; Lady Mary : Lady Mary I shall be with you again presently.

*L. Mary.* Very well brother ; I suppose I shall not see you any more till you are married ; pray Mrs. Betty what sort of a man is Lord Brag ?

*Betty.* Madam my Lord is not gone out of the house, and it would be an act of charity to help a lame dog over the stile, his Lordship is at the door and begs to speak with your Ladyship.

*L. Mary.* Bid him come in.

*Enter JEREMY.* LADY MARY surveys him then bursts out a laughing.

*Jer.* Madam, your Ladyship's goodness has often saved poor Jeremy from ruin ; let me beg of you once more to extend it towards me ; and use your interest with my Lord to forgive me : if I had the least suspicion of his Lordship's courting the same girl that I did I should have quitted all my pretensions, but here he comes, pray Madam, your Ladyship, pray Madam.

*Enter L. BRAG, Mr. MUSLIN, CAPTAIN, SOPHY, and CHAPLAIN.*

*L. Mary.* Brother I wish you joy, Capt.  
the

the same to you, pray brother permit me to intreat for Lord Brag here, who humbly asks for pardon for assuming your name and title, in order to impose himself upon that young lady, who I hope will likewise forgive him, he protests that if you had made him your confidant, he never should have rivalled you.

*L. Brag.* Well I forgive you Jeremy provided you marry this young woman (*takes both by the hand.*)

*Polly.* And I forgive you too upon that condition.

*Jer.* My Lord, I am much obliged to you, Betty shall be happy since so well ; (*to Mr. Muslin*) I hope, Sir you will forgive me too.

*Mus.* Why as Mr. Johnson and my daughter have forgiven you, I won't be backward in doing a good natured action, so I forgive you too.

*Jer.* Sir my master is not Mr. Johnson, but Lord Brag ; and I am Jeremy Johnson, and Betty, Sir, will be Mrs. Johnson and Miss Polly that was, is now Lady Brag.

*Mus.* Why this is something strange !

*L. Brag.* Well Jeremy step into the next room, with my chaplain, and he shall join you and Betty together.

*Jer.* Then you my Lord, come along Betty ; Mr. Testament will you be so good Sir, to come and stich us together. [Exit.

*Mus.* So Polly you are Lady Brag at last, now pray take care child, that your Ladyship's actions distinguish you from the vulgar,

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gar, my Lord you have done me much honour, Polly was always a good girl; and to make her more valuable to you, I will give her fifty thousand pounds down and fifty more at my death.

*Re-enter J E R E M Y, B E T T Y and C H A P L A I N.*

*L. Brag.* Mr. Muslin I am obliged to you; her merit by far outweighs her fortune, and it shall be my constant endeavour to make her happy.

*Jer. (aside)* If her fortune had not some weight with my Lord, I fear his debts would ne'er be paid (*bws*) my Lord Betty and I are one flesh.

*L. Brag.* Well I wish you both much joy, and that we may be all sociable, let us call up the fiddlers, and have a dance, sister you shall dance with the chaplain. Jeremy and Betty shall call the dance.

*Jer.* My Lord I have no choice.

*Betty.* But I hope, therefore if your Lordship pleases it shall be the Irish lift.

*L. Brag.* Gentlemen take your partners.

*Muf.* I am too old to dance, but I love to see mirth going forward: added my Lord, there is nothing like a union of the court and city interest. (*concludes with a dance, by the characters in the Farce.*)

F    I    N    I    S.

## E P I L O G U E.

SPOKEN BY JEREMIAH IN LIVERY.

(bowing to the Boxes.

*L*IKE many more motley Friends of my Crew,  
I have acted; for often, my Lords we ape you;  
But amongst our whole set true breedings so scarce,  
That we never genteely can keep up the Farce;  
Nay had I imposed on the Cit for a Lord,  
I'm sure, I am better far at the side Board;  
For oft from my Table, I surely had flown,  
To fetch a clean Knife, or put a Plate down,  
And though my dear Molly had been ever so humble,  
Of Etiquette we should have made a strange jumble;  
In the Night had I waked, and my Wife rang  
the Bell,  
To see what she called for, I'd got up pell mell,  
And perhaps by Mistake to our utter Reproach  
I had got up behind, and not into the Coach.  
So I think after all 'tis better by far,  
That I'm hopp'd off with Betty, for if we should jar,  
She cannot find fault from Family Pride,  
Or for what he was once, her Husband deride;  
Since thus it is ended, I'll Trust for the rest,  
For Jonathan Pope said, what is, must be best.



